

-- In this system, the staffs of the organization are associated with the configuration of the organization and are stored with staff codes (ID numbers of the employees) in the table of the server 119. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 21, line 10, and ending at page 21, line 19, as follows:

-- Furthermore, the contents of the electronic file wrapper 412 formed in the document server 116 can be a document 413 for each case, an inspection document 414 such as the patent information of third parties, a cited document 415 referenced in an examination by Patent Office for a case. However, the cited document 415 can be stored in a DB on another server 119 as described above, and can be easily retrieved on the screen for access to the case through the HTML link. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 29, line 8, and ending at page 29, line 17, as follows:

-- Then, according to the present embodiment, in this case, when the circulation is started with a part of documents not yet obtained for an action case, and necessary documents are obtained later, the system 1401 additionally inserts the documents obtained from other sections 1402 such as a material section, etc., to the case of the holder of the action case as follow-up, and the mail informing that the documents (document follow-up material) have been inserted is transmitted to a person who has already passed the action case. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 31, line 1, and ending at page 31, line 3, as follows:

-- If there are no flags of related documents (NO in S1502), a normal process such as generating a new action case, etc., is performed in S1509. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 31, line 17, and ending at page 31, line 21, as follows:

-- In a method of using the above mentioned action case, typically a person who has received the action case 1601 assigns the number 1602 to the case and passes it to the next person 1603 as it is as shown in FIG. 16-1. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 32, line 8, and ending at page 32, line 15, as follows:

-- A use form of a copy case is not limited to the above mentioned example. That is, as shown in (3), the holder of 1610 copies a case 1609 received from a requester, divides it into 1611 and 1612, and can pass them for parallel study. However, returned 1613 and 1614 are not returned as separate cases to the requester, but the person who made the copies integrates and returns them to the requester. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 32, line 25, and ending at page 33, line 4, as follows:

-- The development right acquirement support section 103 transmits a written copy study request of a case 1703 as an attached document of electronic mail to the

research and development section 102, which on the other hand, generates a copy case, and transmits a written study request of a copy case 1705 as an attached document of electronic mail to another development section. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 34, line 13, and ending at page 34, line 17, as follows:

-- The above mentioned work flow is managed by the system, and the studying person inputs the next studying person (approver), pushes the transmission button, thereby performing the system registration and mail transmission. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 36, line 23, and ending at page 36, line 27, as follows:

-- The ideal form of the entire system is the totally online system as in the first embodiment as described above. However, there can arise an environment in which electronic mail and the Web temporarily cannot be used. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 40, line 27, and ending at page 41, line 15, as follows:

-- After studying an action, in S2401, an answer to the action is transmitted through the system or by facsimile to an office through the system, and the bibliographic information in response to the action is registered in the DB of the management server 117 in S2402. Then, the server 119 issues an ID number to the action response (response request) in S2403, and the ID number is transmitted to the